

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to include the reference to the PCT counterpart of the present application and reference the priority to the French application No. 03/13973.

Claims 1-17 are currently amended and Claim 18 is a new claim.

The claims have been amended to remove the multiple dependencies, to improve readability and to place the application in better format for examination.

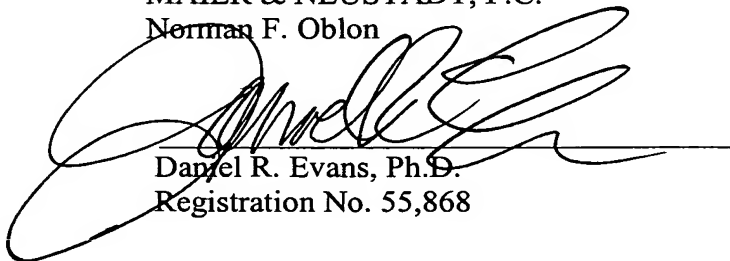
New Claim 18 finds support in original Claim 4. Additional support for the amendment is found in the claims and specification as originally filed.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-18 will be active. No new matter is believed to have been added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman F. Oblon

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel R. Evans', is written over a horizontal line.

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